

UNIT 4:

Lesson 2: Proposing a Plan for Community-based Health Care

Suggested Class Time: 70 minutes

Objectives:

- Plan a community-based health center for mothers and children under five in a developing country;
- Consider the role of community leaders in a successful local health care initiative;
- Evaluate the proposals of other students on the same topic.

Session Plan:

Opening Activity: Proposal Request — 15 minutes

Group Activity: Proposing Community Health Centers — 55 minutes (presentations may need to extend into the second session)

Vocabulary:

Community, philanthropy

Materials Needed:

- Copies of the *Youth Report*, Chapter 4 and Glossary; “Highlights in Child Survival,” pages 18–19
- World map or globe
- Copies of Handouts 10 (page 2), 12, and 13 for the whole class.
- Internet Access: Lesson Activities
UNICEF websites
http://www.unicef.org/sowc08/profiles/child_health.php (Milestones in health service provision)
http://www.unicef.org/immunization/index_coverage.html and
http://www.unicef.org.uk/press/news_detail_full_story.asp?news_id=434
<http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/index.html>
<http://www.unicef.org/sowc08/youth/informed.php#answer13>
<http://www.unicef.org/sowc08/youth/informed.php#answer14>
http://www.unicef.org/sowc08/profiles/community_partnerships.php

- Internet Access: Extension Activity
http://www.unicef.org/sowc08/profiles/child_health.php (Milestones in health service provision)
http://www.unicef.org/immunization/index_coverage.html and
http://www.unicef.org/immunization/index_coverage.html and
http://www.unicef.org.uk/press/news_detail_full_story.asp?news_id=434

Opening Activity: Proposal Request

Directions

1. Read aloud the heading on the Request for Proposal: “U.S. Foundation Supports Child Survival Programs in Africa” (page 61).
2. Tell students you’re giving them 30 seconds to list as many different ways to promote child survival in Africa as they can (based on their familiarity with the *Youth Report*). (Responses may include *educating families of young children; supplying nutritious food, micronutrients, and clean water; protecting children from malaria; inoculating children against preventable diseases; rehydrating children with diarrhea; providing health care to pregnant women*)
3. Review student responses and then distribute Handout 12. Read together the Request for Proposals. Explain that while this is a fictitious foundation, it is similar to many philanthropic organizations in the U.S. that support UNICEF’s child survival initiatives around the world.
4. Tell students that for the next activity they will be working in groups to respond to the proposal request. (You can also write one proposal as a class rather than in small groups.)

Group Activity: Proposing Community Health Centers

Directions

1. Divide the class into groups and assign each group a name or a number. Explain that each group will complete the “Response to Request for Proposals” section on Handout 11. Distribute copies of Handout 11 and Handout 10, page 2 (used in the previous lesson), to each group to use as a reference. Groups will need Internet access to help with some of the responses.
2. Suggest that group members divide up the responsibility for finding answers to specific questions.
3. When groups have completed their Response to the Request for Proposals, have them make an oral or PowerPoint presentation to the class.
4. Distribute Handout 12 so that students can evaluate each group’s proposed ideas.

Extension Activity: Timeline

Directions

1. Interested students can compare and contrast two “Highlights in Child Survival” outlined on pages 18–19 of the *Youth Report*. Working as individuals or teams, students will consider the strengths and merits of initiatives with two very different approaches to child survival—the 1974 Extended Program on Immunization and the 2002 Accelerated Child Survival and Development.
2. Direct students to find out more about these important programs at the following websites:
http://www.unicef.org/sowc08/profiles/child_health.php (Milestones in health service provision)
http://www.unicef.org/immunization/index_coverage.html
http://www.unicef.org.uk/press/news_detail_full_story.asp?news_id=434
3. Students can then discuss or debate the two approaches or write an essay comparing and contrasting them.

Call to Action: “My hopes, my dreams, my wishes” for you

Invite students to read the letter from Melinda Gates (*Youth Report*, pages 32-33). Ask students to imagine a young child living in one of the countries reviewed in the *Youth Report*. Ask them to write a letter to a child living in this country, expressing their hopes, dreams, and wishes for that child as he or she reaches five years of age. This assignment can be expanded beyond a single classroom and become an all-school creative writing contest. A panel of teachers and students can judge the letters for content, style, and accuracy. The top five winning letters can be posted on the school website or displayed in the library.

The Four Key Strategies for Child Survival

Directions: Follow your teacher’s directions and answer the questions related to your assigned strategy on a separate sheet of paper.

Strategy 1 — Promote Community Partnerships

1. What are the key goals of this strategy?
2. Why is it an important strategy for increasing child survival rates?
3. What are some of the obstacles to creating community partnerships in the 60 priority countries?

Strategy 2 — Develop and Strengthen the Continuum of Care

1. What are the key goals of this strategy?
2. Why is it an important strategy for increasing child survival rates?
3. What is the “continuum of care”?
4. Should the continuum of care end after age five?

Strategy 3 — Expand Services and Strategies

1. What are the key goals of this strategy?
2. Why is it an important strategy for increasing child survival rates?
3. What are “packaged interventions”?
4. How do they contribute to reaching more children?

Strategy 4 — Increase Unity in Global Health Partnerships

1. What are the key goals of this strategy?
2. Why is it an important strategy for increasing child survival rates?
3. Provide some examples of global health partnerships and explain briefly what they have accomplished and hope to accomplish. (See bottom of page 32 of the *Youth Report*.)

Fast Facts about the Four Strategies

Strategy 1 — Promote Community Partnerships

How can a community partnership ensure child survival? Many countries of the world do not have strong health systems and face a shortage of doctors and nurses. In such countries, most child deaths occur at home before the child's family has been able to seek medical care, which is often far away. Thousands of children's lives can be saved if every community has access to a package of basic health care. This package would include a network of community health workers to provide families with simple treatments for childhood illnesses and also advise on how to recognize when a child should be taken to the health clinic or hospital for more urgent care.

Strategy 2 — Develop and Strengthen the Continuum of Care

What is a "continuum of care"? In a continuum of care, health care is provided to a mother before and during pregnancy, at the time of delivery, immediately after childbirth, and to her newborn child as she or he grows into infancy, childhood, and adolescence. In such a continuum, each stage builds on the success of the stage before. Skilled care before, during, and immediately after birth reduces the risk of complications or death for both the mother and the baby. Continued care for children supports their right to health.

Strategy 3 — Expand Services and Strategies

What does "scaling up" mean? Scaling up means taking low-cost and effective health services and strategies from the community level to district, state, and country levels. Scaling up community health initiatives is a challenge because it needs greater funding, good coordination between levels, and strong political leadership to strengthen a country's health system.

Source: *The State of the World's Children 2008*, <http://www.unicef.org/sowc08/youth/informed.php>

Strategy 4 — Develop Unity in Global Health Partnerships

What are the challenges to unity in global health partnerships? Depending on the definition used, it is estimated that there are over 100 global health partnerships. A number of these partnerships have proved remarkably effective in offering communities free or reduced-cost medicines whose quality is assured, along with vaccines. Yet, in their single-mindedness to produce results, it has been argued that global partnerships are often donor- and product-driven rather than country- and people-centered.

There are many challenges facing developing countries as they seek to coordinate and manage these efforts. What is clear however is that developing countries must take the lead and "own" the solutions to their health problems. Global partnerships for child health and survival are beginning to move toward greater coordination and integration with the priorities, systems, and procedures developing countries themselves.

HANDOUT 11

Directions: Read the *Request for Proposals* below and then follow your teacher's directions for preparing a proposal that addresses the questions in the "Response to Proposal" section.

Request for Proposals: U.S. Foundation Supports Child Survival Programs in Africa

The "Healthy Children Around the World Foundation" is requesting proposals to develop community-based health centers. While there has been tremendous progress in improving child health and survival, far too many children are dying from preventable causes before they reach age five. Most of these deaths occur within sub-Saharan Africa.

The information presented in UNICEF's *The State of the World's Children 2008* report inspired us to take action. The Foundation is now seeking proposals to develop community-based child health centers to increase the survival and development of young children. There are many successful community-based programs around the world. Using this knowledge, the goal is to develop community health centers to provide essential health and development services to mothers and their young children.

Initial start-up funding is available for three years. If successful, continued support will be considered. All interested university and/or health institutions are encouraged to apply.

Preliminary Response to Request for Proposal

Directions: Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Location

- a. In which country will you establish community-based health clinics? (Choose one of the 60 priority countries in sub-Saharan Africa) What is the most recent U5MR in that country?
- b. Will you focus on an urban or rural area? (What are the advantages and disadvantages of each?) Explain your decision.

Suggested Resources: *Youth Report*, p. 8 (60 Priority Countries); UNICEF Information by Country, <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/index.html> (click on country name then "statistics" to find the U5MR)

2. Health Services

- a. Where will health services be located?
- b. Who will provide the services?
- c. What type of training for health care workers will be provided?

HANDOUT 11

Suggested Resources: *Youth Report*, Chapter 3; *Youth Report* p. 30, “Key Strategies 1, 2, 3”; UNICEF, *The State of the World’s Children 2008*:

<http://www.unicef.org/sowc08/youth/informed.php#answer13>

<http://www.unicef.org/sowc08/youth/informed.php#answer14>

3. Community Involvement

- a. What community leaders will you enlist to help plan the health center?
- b. How might these community leaders be helpful?
- c. What, if any, role would families play in the management of the centers?
- d. How will you convince the local government to fund the health services after foundation funding ends in three years?

Suggested Resources: UNICEF, *The State of the World’s Children 2008*, What Can Be Done: Community Partnerships for Child Survival, scroll down to “Tenets for a successful community-based approach to health”

http://www.unicef.org/sowc08/profiles/community_partnerships.php

HANDOUT 12

Proposal Evaluation Form

Directions: Follow directions for using this form to evaluate the proposals responding to the Healthy Children Around the World Foundation's request.

Proposal group name or number

Questions	Responses	
In this proposal...	Y/N	Explanation
Are the proposed health services appropriate and adequate?		
Is the strategy to deliver health services practical?		
Is family/community involvement in health centers adequate?		
Could this strategy for health centers be used in other countries? Why or why not?		
Is the strategy realistic? Does the proposal anticipate some of the major challenges to the success of their program?		
What are the strengths of the proposals? What recommendations would you make to strengthen this proposal?	Strengths: Recommendations:	